



United States  
14671 (83116-1)  
Patents

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**IN RE APPLICATION**

Serial Number: 10/820,140  
Group Art Unit: 3677  
Confirmation No.: 6658  
Examiner: Robert J. Sandy  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TIGHTENING  
LACES OR OTHER CORDS  
Filing Date: April 8, 2004  
Inventors: Darren McClelland  
Agent's ref: 14671 (83116-1)

September 27, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window Mailstop: AF  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
United States

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE**

In response to the final Office Action dated March 31, 2006, the deadline for responding to which is September 30, 2006 with a three-month extension of time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.

OK to enter / R. Sandy; 10/06/2006